vulnerable sections of the population usually live, etc.

Fire in Toofan Express

3636. CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Toofan Express was set on fire near Karauta (Bihar) on the 10th August, 1990 by anti-reservationists who were protesting against the granting of additional 27 per cent reservation of jobs for backward castes by Government;

(b) if so, what is the loss sustained by the Railways as a result thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir. One second class coach of Udayan Abha Express (old Toofan Express) was set on fire.

(b) As a result of this fire, the Railway suffered a loss of approximately Rupees 2 Lakhs.

(c) The State Government was requested to make arrangements for the protection of passengers, Railway property and smooth movement of Rail Traffic. The State Government have strengthened the security arrangements by deploying more GRP/Civil Police and RPF under the charge of Magistrates and Police Officers. Mail/Express trains passing through affected areas are being escorted by Police/RPF during the day time also.

Connecting of Kolhapur to Pune Section to the Central Railway Zone

3637. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL :

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :

DR. BAPU KALDATE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the persistent demand from Western Maharashtra to connect the section between Kolhapur and Pune to the Central Railway Zone from the South Central Railway Zone; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The jurisdiction of Railway Zones and Divisions is decided with reference to administrative and operational requirements consistent with the needs of efficiency. On these considerations, it is not desirable to disturb the existing arrangement.

3638. [*Transferred to the 5th September*, 1990].

Engagement of employees on contract, part time and casual basis by the UNI

3639. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the UNI news agency, the recipient of Government grants and loans, has been engaging employees on contract, part-time and casual basis for several years in full-time and permanent cadre posts of typists, librarians and clerks;

(b) if so, the number of such employees, category-wise, working in the UNI, on contract, part-time and casual basis for more than one year as on March 31, 1990; and

(c) the steps taken or contemplated by Government to end this unfair labour practice and for regularisation of services of such employees in the UNI with prescribed wages under the Bachawat Wage Board Award?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

E.M.U. Trains on Ahmedabad-Baroda-Surat Sector

3640. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that suburban traffic on Ahmedabad-Baroda-Surat sector has increased during the past several years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to an increase in rail traffic in this sector, the State Government of Gujarat have recommended for the E.M.U. trains on this sector; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard and by when the proposal would be approved by the Railways.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) An Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for development of line capacity for introduction of EMU type rolling stock on Virar-Vadodara-Ahmedabad section has been sanctioned. The field work has been completed and the survey report is under finalisation by the Western Railway. The survey report when received will be examined and a decision taken on merits.

Blocking of way to terrace by allottees of Block-A in Friends Colony, Delhi

3641. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the residents and allottees of the DDA, MIG flats in Friends Colony, Block-A have not yet formed a registered agency for the management and administration of common portions attached to the flats as required under DDA regulations of 1968;

(b) if so, what action has been taken or is being contemplated by the DDA to ensure early formation of registered agency;

(c) whether it is a fact that some of the top floor residents have closed free access to the building terraces where water tanks are located, causing inconvenience to majority of residents in this housing colony; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or being contemplated to ensure free access to common portions of terrace for regular inspection and maintenance of water tanks?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A press notification was issued on 20-4-87 requesting the allottees of DDA flats to ensure formation of Registered Agency wherever such agencies have not been constituted.

(c) DDA has not received any such complaint from the residents of Block-A Friends Colony.

(d) Question does not arise.

Shortage of Water Supply in Friends colony

3642. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute shortage of drinking water supply in the DDA, MIG flats in Block-A, Friends Colony East Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken or being contemplated by Delhi Development Authority and the local authorities to ensure adequate supply of drinking water to the residents of the said colony;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the DDA have not completed the development of park in area; and

(e) if so, by when it is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) DDA gets bulk supply of water from the Delhi Water Supply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking through 1" dia service pipe for supply to the MIG flats in Friends Colony Block A and necessary boosting arrangements have been made by the DDA. Shortage of water is felt in 18 MIG flats during summer season. DDA has already taken up the issue of augmentation of water supply with the DWS & SDU.

(d) & (e) Parks in Block A of Friends Colony have been fully developed.